

CLEAN WATER COUNCIL

Meeting Highlights

September 11, 2001

Location

N.J. Environmental Infrastructure Trust, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ

Attendees

See attached attendance list.

Highlights Summary

Mary Sheil, Director of Watershed Management at the DEP, introduced Kerry Kirk Pflugh. She is Bureau Chief for Raritan and also heads up the Public Education and Outreach Program. She will be replacing Mary as coordinator for the Council. Mary also introduced Kerry's secretary, Ursula Montis.

At this time it may be historically noteworthy to record this date in the minutes as the day New York and Washington, DC were attacked by terrorists. Both Twin Towers at the World Trade Center were completely destroyed when two airplanes flew into both the Towers. Approximately 5,000 people are feared dead. The attack took place at 8:48am on September 11, 2001. A third plane crashed into the Pentagon, and still a fourth crashed in Pa. killing all aboard.

2001 Public Hearing Topic Selection

- After much discussion, the topic of Stormwater Management Process was chosen.
- Barry Sullivan suggested that a better time for a Stormwater Management Presentation would be at the spring Seminar.
- Tom Baxter suggested public education in NPS should be included.
- Ray Zabihach suggested that Stormwater should be divided into two aspects: New development, and existing development. He stressed that the bulk of pollution comes from **existing development**. Other questions to ponder: 1) How do we start capturing Stormwater that comes from existing development? 2) How much is the public willing to spend to clean this up? 3) Is the public willing to take responsibility for personal actions and everyday activities (fertilizers, landscaping treatments, pets, etc.)
- Mary Sheil commented on the Recycling Program she initiated in 1980, saying that it changed the public's way of handling their garbage. She felt that public education in NPS might do the same.
- Ray Zabihach suggested that we put the question of the public's willingness to support a massive education program in NPS, to the people.

Action Items

- Ray Zabihach, Ed Wengryn and Helen Heinrich will form a committee to come up with the questions to be printed up in the brochure that will be mailed to the public prior to the Public Hearing. Council would like to see questions on the floor by the Oct. 9th meeting and the brochure printed and out by, or right after our November 13th meeting.
- Kerry will follow up with Karen Ward as to whether a room was available for the Public Hearing. Places suggested were: Holiday Inn, Jamesburg; Marriott Courtyard(exit 8 off Tpk.); Foresgate Country Club, Jamesburg; and Holiday Inn in Plainsboro. We will also need a stenographer to record minutes.
- December 5th and possibly December 12th, 2001 were dates suggested for the Public Hearing.

CWC WEB SITE

Web site is up and running. It is on the web. Mary Sheil will follow up to see if someone from DEP can work with a member of the Council to maintain the web site.

DEP UPDATE

- Mary Sheil says they should have Stormwater Management Rules proposal by the end of the year; Groundwater Standard Rules proposal by December or January; and SWQS Rules must be adopted by November.
- Bob Tudor will be leaving DEP October 1, 2001 to join DRBC as Deputy Executive Director. Commissioner Shinn has decided not to fill his position. Gary Sondermeyer will remain as Chief of Staff. Brickner and Nagy are back with DEP.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Pat Matarazzo made a recommendation that handouts from EPA dealing with TMDL process are not written in stone. We are still moving forward on TMDL's in the Passaic Basin.
- EcoComplex – There has been no meeting. They have faxed resumes to the CWC.
- Freshwater Wetlands Rules have been adopted September 4, 2001 - Public Hearing on September 27, 2001.
- Helen Heinrich, NJ Farm Bureau, introduced new staff member, Gabor Grunstein.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Ray Zabihach announced that on October 1, 2001, The Jackson Brooks Management Plan would be the first regional Stormwater Management Plan in the State to be adopted. It enhances both the Municipalities and County regulatory reviews for all new development. Copies of the document were requested.